September 26, 2002

DEQ-VALLEY

SEP 3 0 2002

TO:_____

Dept. of Environmental Quality P.O. Box 3000 Harrisonburg, VA 22801

To Sandy Mueller:

I was unable to be present at the public meeting regarding Linville Creek today, so was told I could send my questions and concerns to you.

I am a resident, but not a landowner, along Linville Creek. My water source is a spring-fed cistern which has been tested to reveal unacceptable readings of animal waste bacteria. My family and I have not been seriously affected by this, however, in the nine years of our residence.

We also have a pond served by this spring which, within the past 5 years or so, has been covered by duckweed from May to December, killing off the fish in the 1st year it showed up. My inquiries into remedies have turned up 'solutions' that are very expensive and only address symptoms, thus needing to be repeated as regularly as the applications of poultry litter that are applied at least once each year on the surrounding pastureland.

I noted in the newspaper articles that compliance by landowners is not mandatory. My question is: are there any incentives to landowners to comply with the regulations, e.g. funds to help rebuild stream protection, etc.? I don't know if my landlord attended or not, but I would like to know to pass information on to him if possible. We have a good relationship and have previously discussed my water situation and the pond.

Sincerely,

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